

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DLOS-03 NEA-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COA-01 FEA-01 OES-03 TRSE-00 EB-07

COME-00 INT-05 ACDA-05 /100 W

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R 121548Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9125

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0454

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJ: SOVIET INITIATIVE ON BALTIC CONTINENTAL SHELF CONVENTION

REF: TEHRAN 0914

DEPT PLEASE PASS EUR/SOV DICK MILES AND D/LOS ESKIN

1. PERSUANT TO REQUEST FROM DEPT, JOHN NORTON MOORE, DEPUTY SPECIAL REP OF PRESIDENT FOR LOS CONFERENCE, RAISED PRIVATELY WITH DR. ROMANOV, DEPUTY LEGAL ADVISER IN SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY, REPORT IN REFTEL THAT USSR HAD RECENTLY REQUESTED A FORMAL CONVENTION AMONG BALTIC STATES ON BALTIC CONTINENTAL SHELF. MOORE APPROACHED ISSUE BY FIRST INDICATING IMPORTANCE OF AVOIDING PURELY REGIONAL SOLUTIONS WHICH COULD PREJUDICE MUTUAL LOS OBJECTIVES. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS CONCERNING REPORTS OF SOVIET BALTIC INITIATIVE DR. ROMANOV INDICATED THAT SOVIET HAD MADE A RECENT APPROACH TO SWEDEN, CONFIDENTIAL

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FINLAND AND DENMARK ALONG LINES OF 1968 CONTINENTAL SHELF

DECLARATION OF GDR, POLAND AND USSR WHICH HE SAID MERELY PARALLELED CONTINENTAL SHELF CONVENTION. ROMANOV DESCRIBED APPROACH AS ONE LIMITED TO SEABED RESOURCE EXPLOITATION AND AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT EXCLUDING FIRMS OF NON-BALTIC STATES FROM EXPLOITING THE RESOURCES OF THE SHELF IN AREA. HE WAS CLEAR THAT IT WAS NOT INTENDED TO RELATE TO NON-RESOURCE ISSUES, THAT IT WAS STIMULATED BY RECENT JOINT ACTIONS ON BALTIC FISHERIES AND POLLUTION ISSUES, AND THAT IT HAD BEEN FIRMLY REJECTED BY WESTERN NATIONS APPROACHED. ACCORDING TO ROMANOV AT LEAST ONE OF THE APPROACHED COUNTRIES SAID THEY COULD NOT CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL SINCE THEIR LAW HAD PROVISION FOR EXPLOITATION BY NON-BALTIC STATES.

2. COMMENT: DR. ROMANOV ACTED AS IF CAUGHT WITH HIS HAND IN THE COOKIE JAR. HE DISMISSED INITIATIVE AS ONE WHICH HAD BEEN REJECTED BY NATIONS APPROACHED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, CONTINENTAL SHELF, COASTAL WATERWAYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USUNN00454
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750051-0842
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750248/aaaabret.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TEHRAN 0914
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET INITIATIVE ON BALTIC CONTINENTAL SHELF CONVENTION
TAGS: PLOS, UR, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006